

March 8, 1979

M. H.

CHAIRMAN WILLIAM S. PALEY
CBS Inc.
51 West 52nd St.
New York City, N.Y. 10019

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Dear Mr. Paley:

Thank you for your insightful TV special program on the Steelworkers labor union. My husband being in three unions, I really enjoyed hearing the feelings stated by the workers.

100 million people in this country work for a living - they can't be ignored. Jobs affect the lives of everyone in the U.S. These workers earn the money for those on welfare.

Your photography of the steel mills was great, despite the fact Inland Steel wouldn't let you in to see their operation. The old and new pictures were well done. You explained the union concept of why it was born and how it functions very well.

For your next special how about a series on the history of the labor movement in the United States? Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sonia McIntosh

(Mrs.) Sonia McIntosh

WILLIAM S. PALEY

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15 Middle Street
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

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March 22, 1979
SEN AMES B3NE1001/051

CBS
51 W 52nd Street
New York, New York 10019

Gentlemen:

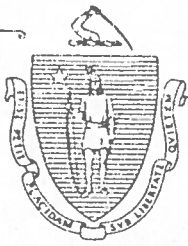
I just finished watching your special program on unions based on the history of unionization at Inland Steel. It was an extraordinary program and one which I hope will be rerun many times. It serves as a warning of the harmful conditions that still exist in these plants and also of the extraordinary progress that has been made in improving the condition of the workers over the last decades. I suspect such a show is not an easy one for a network such as yours to show but you should know that there was a responsive audience.

Sincerely,



Adele Simmons

AS/fs



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Maritime Academy

P.O. BOX D, BUZZARDS BAY, MASSACHUSETTS 02532 / DIVISION OF STATE COLLEGES



23 March 1979

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SERVICES COMM/99C
CBS/AUDIENCE SERVICES

CBS Audience Services
51 West 52d Street
New York, 10019

Sir:

I would like to purchase or rent a copy of a film aired over your network during the first week of March entitled: Inside the Union. Please refer me to the appropriate distributor. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Black
Assistant Professor

WIB LOHRENTZ, INC.

1651 WILLIAMSBURG ROAD

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15243

W. L. LOHRENTZ
PRESIDENT

813-676-6880 (FLA.)

412-341-7458 (PGH., PA.)

44-379

March 29, 1979

CBS Television

51 W. 52nd St.

New York, NY.

Gentlemen:

Recently you put on a special about the United Steelworkers union. It was called "Inside the Union".

I will be leading a seminar in the next several weeks on labor relations in the steel industry. It would be helpful if I had a copy of the transcript of your program. Please send me a copy at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your cooperation, and your excellent TV service.

Sincerely,

W. L. Lorentz

Mr. H.

326150 MA-379

RECEIVED OCT 17 1960

Dear Mr. Paley

I saw your program on Lu# ^{or} 1010
USWA. There are few union
members that know about this side
of the International. If they did
the International Representative tell
the members of the Locals that
he is a Trouble maker, a thief, and
a communist. I know! I
filed charges over the USWA
attendance rule for running for
office with the US Labor department
I won in the US Supreme Court
in Washington - You wouldn't
Believe what has happened since
then to me. Great going on your
show. it needed to be said.

Bernie Frye LU# 348
1304 So. 7th
Tomball, Tex. 77664
USWA 478

3 0 8 MAR 30 79

FOE 31001W 030

Office of
MAURICE SPLAIN, JR.
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



House Building
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

March 22, 1979

Audience Services
CBS, Inc.
51 West 52nd Street
New York, New York 10019

Gentlemen:

I would be most appreciative if I could get a transcript of George Herman's CBS News Show, "Inside the Union", which was broadcast over KDKA, March 6th at 9:00 p.m.

The program reviewed the operation and development of the United States Steel Works of America.

Naturally, we will be happy to pay any charge that may be involved.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Maurice Splain, Jr.

United Steelworkers of America

AFL-CIO-CLC

FIVE GATEWAY CENTER, PITTSBURGH, PA. 15222

Lloyd McBride
International President

March 15, 1979

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA
IN THE BASIC STEEL INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES

Greetings:

The Columbia Broadcasting System, a multi-million dollar media Corporation recently aired on its network a program entitled "Inside the Union". Not surprisingly, this program presented a distorted and one-sided view of the labor movement in general and the United Steelworkers in particular -- a biased view much more in keeping with the growing anti-labor attitude of conservative businessmen and radical left wingers than it is with the truth.

CBS gave a number of traditional opponents of the policies of the United Steelworkers of America very substantial amounts of time to air their views on nationwide television, particularly on the question of contract ratification, a subject which has most important implications for our members in basic steel.

We do not quarrel with the right of these few members to express their dissent -- although we think they were badly misused by CBS. We do, however, object very strenuously to the fact that CBS devoted such a substantial amount of its monopoly of the airways to present an inaccurate and distorted view of our union, and gave the members of our union who supported its policies virtually no opportunity to respond.

CBS did not state that our union is one of the very few unions that elects its officers by secret ballot; rank-and-file referendum vote.

CBS did not state that all of the more than four thousand delegates to our convention, including those staff representatives who attended were elected by members of the local unions.

CBS did not explain that every viewpoint on every subject was fully and repetitively debated until the delegates themselves voted overwhelmingly to cease debate.

CBS did not explain that because of the size of the convention, and the impossibility of every delegate having an opportunity to speak, those in opposition to a committee report typically speak more frequently in relation to their numbers than those in support. At this last convention, one out of twenty times that a delegate was recognized, that delegate was from the very local that CBS was portraying as having difficulty expressing its views, although it was only one of the several thousand local unions represented at the convention.

CBS did not explain that contracts in the basic steel industry are ratified by the presidents of the local unions in the industry who are, of course, elected by their membership.

CBS did not explain that ENA was adopted by our Basic Steel Industry Conference to meet problems of the boom-bust cycle of stockpiles, imports and then massive layoffs which followed the early negotiating periods.

CBS did not state that local unions in basic steel have the right to strike over local working conditions including safety and health issues and that Local 1010 elected not to do so.

Our Union has developed, over its history, procedures for bargaining designed to best represent our members in dealing with the giant, powerful and traditionally hostile basic steel industry. These procedures have a number of elements, all of which involve either the membership as a whole or the elected representatives of the membership -- the development of contract proposals by the local unions, the Wage Policy Committee, and the Industry Conference; the right to strike on local issues; contract ratification by local union presidents meeting together in their own Industry Conference; and ENA.

THESE PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN TREMENDOUSLY EFFECTIVE -- THE RESULTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. INSTEAD OF DIVISION AMONG WORKERS AND DESTRUCTION BY THE CORPORATIONS, AS WAS THE CASE IN EVERY ATTEMPT TO UNIONIZE THE STEEL INDUSTRY PRIOR TO THE UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA, OUR UNION HAS ACHIEVED THE BEST INDUSTRIAL UNION COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS IN AMERICA.

These results have required courageous, determined and united effort. The local union presidents, meeting and working together with the union's leadership, holding in their hands the responsibility of representing their members and knowing the needs of their home plants and offices, have been able to provide that united strength.

CONTRACT RATIFICATION BY VOTE IN NEARLY 700 PLANTS AND OFFICES OF TEN COMPANIES INVITES THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS UNITY. What if contracts are accepted by members in some companies, rejected by others? What if the companies decide to create, encourage and respond to potential differences in different locations? What if we were to end up with poorer rates, or lesser benefits, in some plants than others, as we had in the old days of the southern differential, and which we fought so hard to overcome? What then of the unity and strength which has served so well?

In addition, in basic steel the union was either separately recognized or certified under the National Labor Relations Act in nearly 700 units. What then are the legal implications if some groups of a given company vote to accept a settlement while other groups vote to reject it? The likely answer is chaos!

AND WHO ARE THESE DISSIDENT MEMBERS WHO WERE INTERVIEWED AND EXPLOITED BY CBS -- THEY ARE SELF-APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RANK-AND-FILE WHO ARE SO OBSESSED WITH INFLUENCING THE DIRECTION OF THE STEELWORKERS UNION THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO MALICIOUSLY AND PUBLICLY MALIGN THE VERY UNION THEY WANT TO CONTROL.

Individuals like them sought and obtained "outsider" financing from business and professional types during the last International Election. They continue to preach disunity and champion lost causes -- causes and issues that were emphatically rejected by the membership not only at the International Convention but at the ballot box during the last election of International Officers.

The overwhelming majority of delegates to the convention refused to order a change in the basic steel ratification procedure unless the Basic Steel Industry Conference agreed to it. The present structure of bargaining in basic steel has produced results unequaled in any other industry and should not be changed unless the beneficiaries of those benefits through their representatives vote for such changes. And this is how it will be, despite the fact that neither the convention decision itself nor its background were ever mentioned, much less explained, by CBS.

Yours fraternally,

W. S. Paley

President

cc: William S. Paley, Chairman
Board of Directors, CBS

CBS uses Local 1010 to demonstrate union plight

By ERNIE HERNANDEZ
Post-Tribune Staff Reporter

EAST CHICAGO — The plight of local unions — pitted against management for better wages and working conditions, and against their own international leaders for democratic representation — is on national focus Tuesday night.

The hour-long show is "CBS Reports: Inside the Union" on Channel 2 at 7 p.m. It surely will arouse controversy.

Attention is directed at one local of the United Steelworkers of America — Local 1010, which is the largest in the 1.4 million-member union with 18,000 members, and which isn't in step with the union's president, Lloyd McBride.

But Irv Drasnin, the producer, said CBS Reports focused on the unit at the Indiana

Harbor plant of Inland Steel Co. because it represents a cross section of workers, and all its members are in the same plant. It's considered representative of unions and USW in general.

A year in the making, the documentary's filming was started last April, and it includes scenes at union halls, bars, parking lots, picnic grounds, and at the USW convention at Atlantic City.

There also are background shots of steel-making processes — the open hearth, the rolling mills, the blast furnaces — although CBS wasn't allowed inside Inland Steel's plant, and as narrator George Herman reports:

"Inland Steel refused us permission to film inside the mill ... and declined to talk to us about it. We got as close as a telephone could take us." There are aerial shots of the plant.

"We went to Inland because it's big and it's successful; and East Chicago, Indiana, is at the heart of America's steel industry," the narrator says.

The union is portrayed through the words of its officials — Bill Andrews, the president; Cliff Mezo, vice president; Jim Robinson, grievor, and son-in-law of James Balanoff, former president; Balanoff himself, now District 31 director; John Sargent, 38-year veteran and former four-term president; Bill Young, retired member, and Mike Olszanski, environment committee chairman.

The documentary, therefore, is essentially the story of the incumbent Rank and File administration at Local 1010, which took over in 1976 with the election of Balanoff as president, and Edward Sadowski as District 31 director. Opponents of that caucus may have

something to say about that, since there's an election of local officers at 1010 next month. The film takes the Rank and File group's battles to the convention at Atlantic City and a problem peculiar to the steelworkers' union — delegate seating.

"The struggle is no longer just with the company, but within the union itself, over issues that go to the very spirit of the labor movement — the right to strike, the right to ratify contracts, democracy in the union," Herman narrates.

But USW conventions are traditionally rigged, and CBS through Local 1010's Rank and File, tells the nation about it.

The union's staffers, some 700 of them, all show up as delegates at conventions, making up an administration-paid majority, and Mezo describes an example — when Balanoff was

booed for trying to speak against a new rule banning outside funds for union elections.

"This is orchestrated ... When they want cheers, they get cheers. When they want cheer they get cheers," says Mezo on national television.

And so, reliving the convention at Atlantic City, TV shows the Rank and File, Sadowski and Balanoff's party, defeated again.

By focusing on Local 1010 and Rank and File, CBS Reports may or may not be target in its search, for the typical union Other unions, and other locals in USW, might argue that they are more representative, and in touch with the rank and file.

But at Local 1010, in conflict with its international as well as its employer, CBS focuses issues more clearly defined, and openly pounded.

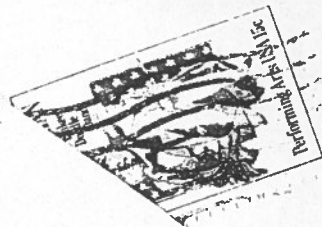
Clarence Service CBS Inc

Really³¹ enjoyed the CBS Reports
on Stetwarkers shown on
Mar 6, 1979 and so did about
everyone else that saw it.

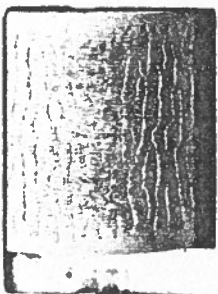
It was telling it like it is
and was. Too dark many
missed seeing it - as there was
little preview for it and a
lot did not see a notice we
had in the paper. Maybe we
could get a replay in the
summer, just like they show so
many bad shows! As Ever



at 5 and
New York
10019
10019
Sullivan
TV
Inc



Mary S. Hopper
400 Day St
East Chicago Ind 46312



10 Mulberry Ct., #26
Belmont, Ca. 94002
~~April~~ March 7, 1979

Re: CBS Reports "Inside the Union" 2/6/79 8p.m. Channel 5

As a woman labor leader, it's great to have a program to which I can relate. I would have liked to have heard from the black women steel workers about their pay, work and conditions. I wonder if the conditions affect reproduction. Hooray for the members of Local 1010. Although I have been an officer, I strongly support progressive rank and file movements of the kind that Local 1010 is waging. Because it is so rare, I can't tell you how much fun it was to see something that I can agree with.

Very truly yours,
Ingrid Kjosness

Ans'd
gh

P.O. Box 748
Pittsfield Mass.
Mar. 8, 1979
01201

Dear George,

I'm glad that the television
had that specise about unions.

As a member of the A.F.L.-C.I.O.,
I.U.E. Local #255, I was greatly inter-
ested.

It is true in a lot of unions what
those men said, as for black people
they are not allowed to join some unions
and that is why we have so many
black people out of work, the skilled
ones became some of the white people
feel their jobs are in jeopardy but
the black people are on welfare so
what is the difference. The white peo-
ple are still taking care of them.

Thank God our union didn't dis-
criminate against my people. They fought
and fought hard for us.

Again George That was a #1 show

Sincerely,
Mrs. Martha Todd

— Ausd
gh

Tuesday Mar 13, 1979
Adairsville, Ga.

Dear Mr. Herman,

My husband and I watched you narrate the program "Inside The Unions" and found it very interesting and totally believable and accurate. You are to be congratulated!

The purpose of my letter is to suggest that you film a second special Contrasting the Unions in the North with the Unions in the South there is as much difference as daylight and dark. On the North and the South if you will. The one thing I can see that is the same is that the International is selling out the Locals. They are for compacts and to Hell with the people whose interests they supposedly represent. The International signs contracts for the Locals which the Business Agents and the membership never see much less vote on. They have seen what few benefits that they had gained given away over

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the past few years.

Now in his early forties, my husband worked for Levee Bros. in Indiana when he first entered the Labor market in the late fifties. He saw many changes and much progress for the Unions in the North. Due to family troubles he left Indiana and returned to his native Western Kentucky in the late Sixties. His father was active in bringing Unions to the coal mines in the Thirties. Was fired for his involvement and never was able to get work in the mines again nor were his sons. So you can see that my husband has great interest in Union work and has seen it from several sides.

My husband took a job with a company that built cooling towers for power plants. He joined the Carpenters Union in Kentucky and

Came with his company to Georgia. Which was our first experience with the South and Southerners. You will find that most Unions in the South are in the Trades. There are very few Unions in the factories. Even large companies like Pepprell Mills & Klopman Lee Carpets and so on are mostly non-Unions.

My husband is going to run for Business Agent of his small local here in North Georgia this year with hopes of making a better Local for himself and his Brothers. We have lived here eight years now and have a pretty good understanding of how the wind is blowing in the South. We've watched Georgia Power Co. become almost God-like in the state and the International working hand in glove with them. We also feel that Northern manu-

TV

facturing interest in the South is not as they say for the good weather but is for cheap labor and weak and non-existing Unions.

I hope that you will find that my idea has interest and merit and that you will give it consideration.

Thank you
Mrs. L. V. Dockery
Box 414
Adairsville, Ga.
30103

March 14, 1979

Ans
gh

Mr. George Herman
CBS-TV News
51 West 52nd Street
New York, New York 10019

Dear Mr. Herman:

I would like to offer a few comments on CBS's special "Inside the Union".

While I am not a steelworker, I am familiar with the early events leading to unionization of the steel industry and indeed the industrial unions. I am a president of an average size local in the United Auto Workers and am likewise familiar with the workings of a large convention such as depicted.

Generally, I thought the events were presented in a responsible manner although the industry might disagree.

However, in some areas the treatment of important issues was shallow. For instance, there were adverse comments from an opposition leader (not identified as such) in Local 1010 at the outset concerning the no-strike clause but nothing about why the union entered into that agreement. U.S.W.A. Local 4889 (Fairless Works) is located in our back yard so I have sharp recollections concerning not only the immediate impact of a steel strike but the long term effect as American business went overseas to purchase steel as a hedge against shortages produced by the strike and continuations of such purchases after the strike to the detriment of the entire industry including steelworkers. In short, industry wide strikes were counter-productive.

Secondly, the handling of what occurred at the steelworkers convention did not seem even handed to me. The cameras showed a Sgt-at-Arms turning away a mike from a speaker leaving the impression that the delegates were being gagged. However, all those of us who sat through the McCarthy hearings or who have attended a convention know how the "point of order" ploy can be abused and those familiar with Roberts Rules know you cannot get the floor on a "point of order" and proceed to make a speech. Mr. McBride's ruling and the Sgt-at-Arms actions were completely within bounds. I wonder if the public understands from the film what was occurring and why?

March 14, 1979

Mr. George Herman
CBS-TV News

Thirdly, the film and the narration seem to indicate that the convention was a contest between elected rank and file delegates and Mr. McBride's appointees, so-called pork choppers. No attempt was made to inform the viewer of the total number of elected delegates and how they came to be elected. The film did report the results of Local 1010's delegate election which was essentially in opposition to Mr. McBride.

Having attended a good number of U.A.W. conventions, I have often seen delegates in opposition to a question attempt to achieve by volume that which they cannot achieve by a count of the votes. Such was the case as the camera's depicted Local 1010 delegates screaming their vote.

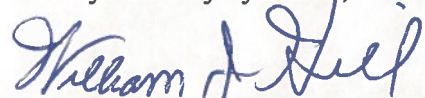
Additionally, it is also obvious that if proponents of a particular point of view cannot force a roll call vote which requires only a relatively small number of delegates supporting a roll call (usually 20% of the delegates) that they cannot prevail on the issue itself which requires a majority (50%).

I believe any contract should be ratified by the entire union including rank and file members. Denial of that right seems to be undemocratic and elitist.

What I have been trying to say is that I hope that CBS's presentation on the points mentioned was an oversight or plain error rather than a subtle attempt to depict Mr. McBride and his leadership as being in total opposition to democracy in the Union and in alliance with the industry.

While I disagree with the U.S.W.A. approach on ratification of a contract, being an outsider I don't know of all their internal problems both within the union and with the industry. I think that issue should have been explored more fully.

Very truly yours,



William J. Hill
12 Tiger Lily Lane
Levittown, Pa. 19054

ROBERT E. KELLEY
(203) 226-9091
P.O. BOX 189
WESTPORT, CONN.
06880



ROBERT J. KELLEY
(203) 226-9091
P.O. BOX 189
WESTPORT, CONN.
06880

CBS News
51 West 52nd St.
N.Y., N.Y.

March 7, 1979

Gentlemen: your C.B.S. News Special 'Inside the Union' was excellent. I can't remember the last time I enjoyed watching a Special News presentation. All aspects of it, were well done. Though it left me with mixed emotion, it has certainly informed me of the problems & benefits, etc., of those Steel Workers.

I feel the presentation was very fair, as I could not detect a one-sided picture or slant.

I particularly enjoyed your photography and the narration of the show. Again, well done.

Sincerely
Robert J. Kelley

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SECRETARY/990

124 W. Gorgas Lane
Phila. Pa. 19119
March 15, 1979

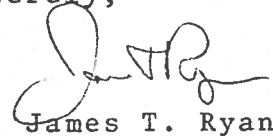
Mr. Dan Gold, General Manager
WCAU-TV
City Ave. and Manument Rd.
Phila. Pa. 19131

Dear Mr. Gold:

This is a belated note to congratulate you on a fine documentary, Inside the Union. I though George Herman was excellent in letting workers tell the story. I was also glad that I had seen the show from the beginning. My father-in-law, and I am afraid, other trade unionists, who saw only the second half would get the impression that it was biased against the union. It was good and I hope we will have some more thoughtful examination of the union movement, past and future. It is a huge topic and sadly neglected.

Again, thank you for a job well done.

Sincerely,


James T. Ryan

cc John O'Connor

DANIEL T. GOLD

10 Mulberry Ct., #26
Belmont, Ca. 94002
April March 7, 1979

Re: CBS Reports "Inside the Union" 2/6/79 8p.m. Channel 5

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Very truly yours,
Ingrid Kjosness

CBS NEWS

A Division of CBS Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 975-2787

Robert Chandler, Vice President
and Director, Public Affairs Broadcasts

Dear Mr. Klander:

March 20, 1979

Earl Henton, Program Director, KDLH-TV in Duluth, has been kind enough to forward your letter to CBS News, which was responsible for the broadcast of CBS REPORTS: "Inside the Union," and which must determine whether it is to be repeated.

First, let me express my delight that those of your members who saw the broadcast reacted favorably. We hoped that when we undertook it we would be able to capture something of the spirit and history of the grass-roots side of organized labor and we are pleased that we seem at least in the case of your local to have done so.

We have not yet reached the point where we are scheduling our summer repeats. While I cannot give you assurance that we will be able to repeat "Inside the Union," we certainly shall give Local 6115's note every consideration.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,



Mr. Roger J.D. Klander
President
USWA Local 6115
P.O. Box 1306
Virginia, Minnesota 55792

cc Mr. Henton (KDLH-TV)

bcc I. Drasnin, B. Leonard

UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA

Local 6115

P.O. 1306
VIRGINIA, MN 55792

218-741-3310

KDLH TV
Programing Department
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Sir,

During our recent Local Union meeting a motion was made to have me to send you a letter requesting the reshewing of the CBS News Documentary: "Inside the Union".

The program was very well recieved by the few members that did see it, however, the advertising by the network and through the local media left many people unaware of the showing. The members of my Local, and I am sure the many other Steelworkers on the Range and Duluth would like to have the program shown again.

I hope that you will see fit to honor this request and have the program on again. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Roger J.D. Klander

Roger J.D. Klander, President
USWA Local 6115
P.O. 1306
Virginia, Minnesota 55792

Home phone: 229-3450

Forwarded
by:
Earl Jenson
Prog. Dir.
KDLH-TV
Duluth, Minn.

Mate
F-H
AAA

*→ R charter
for mp9*

RSS